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*Littering*

*Facts*

*about…*

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**An initiative of Medford Senior Girl Scout Troop #22323**

* Littering is illegal

Medford Town$hip pay$ $80 per ton for **recyclable$** that are left behind!!!

* 80% of **marine debris** comes from pollution on **land**
* 20 billion tons of top soil are *lost* each year due to littering
* Every day, Americans throw a total of 1 million bushels of litter out their car windows
* Over 20,000 beaches were closed around the world in 2009 because of litter and land pollution
* Over 80% items in landfills can be recycled
* Millions of animals **die** because they get caught, strangled, choked, or cut and infected from litter

Decomposition of

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Paper bag | 1 month |
| * Newspaper | 1.5 months |
| * Cardboard | 2 months |
| * Cigarette butt | 2-5 years |
| * Plastic grocery bag | 10-20 years |
| * Tinned steel can | 50 years |
| * Aluminum soda can | 200-500 years |
| * Plastic bottle or 6-pack rings | 450 years |
| * Disposable diaper | 550 years |
| * Fishing line | 600 years |
| * Plastic jug | 1,000,000 years |
| * Glass bottle | NEVER |
| * Styrofoam | NEVER |



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**Litter**

\*\*\*Note: Less exposure to weathering, sunlight, and oxygen can prolong the decomposition of materials.